

DD/R-444-63

16 March 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT : Telephone Conversation with [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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1. In accordance with my instructions of the previous evening, [REDACTED] called me last night to give me a progress report on the generator investigation. I asked him to confirm this status by cable via [REDACTED] so we would have it in writing.

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2. Twenty-one generators have been handpicked from about 2,000 and air shipped back to Cleveland. There they will be tested in a high altitude laboratory which has been put in operation during the past day in order to select out the optimum generators for immediate shipment back to the field. Another company is doing the same thing with 34 sets out of 6,000. It is hoped by this procedure to have a number of generators which can be qualified for actual use under operational conditions for shipment by Sunday night.

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3. [REDACTED] of the [REDACTED] has been carrying out a detailed investigation of the brush problem. They have been going back and tracing the history of the brushes which have been defective in an attempt to isolate the cause. [REDACTED] has samples of all materials and has run and will continue to run spectrograph, X-ray and other physical tests in an attempt to determine the cause of defect. [REDACTED] are carrying out similar studies. However, to date still no explanation.

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4. [REDACTED] admitted that until the last few days this problem had not received high-level attention since the priority was not realized. For security reasons those working on the subject had no knowledge of where the generators were going or of any particular importance they might have. However, now

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everybody up and down the line is well aware, and he assures me, and I believe this is probably correct, they are all turning handsprings to try to correct the situation. [REDACTED] will call me again tonight with another status report although he doesn't expect anything much concrete from the testing program until sometime Sunday. The President of the Company will be on the West Coast personally supervising the work on Sunday.

Signed Herbert Scoville, Jr.

**HERBERT SCOVILLE, JR.**  
Deputy Director  
(Research)

ODDR:HScoville: jlp

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